## ASHBY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

(Ashby)

GENERAL:

Two parcels totaling 583 acres of mostly hilly terrain with variations in elevation of more than 250 feet. Slopes vary from gentle to steep. Access is possible from Route 119, West Road, Pillsbury Road and Bonnet Road.

U.S.G.S. Quad: Ashburnham

**VEGETATION:** 

The northern parcel is composed primarily of marsh and swamp dominated by red maple, buttonbush, cattails, reeds and grass hummocks. The southern parcel is predominantly wooded with a mixed-age forest of white pine, oak and maple. There are three hay fields of 12, 9 and 3 acres within this parcel.

WATER:

The upper reaches of the South Branch of the Souhegan River runs through the northern parcel. It is only 4-5 feet wide and 3-4 feet deep in this stretch, although extensive beaver activity has created a number of ponds. There is no standing water on the southern parcel, although there are some small, seasonably wet areas.

WILDLIFE:

Waterfowl and furbearers (including otter, muskrat, mink, raccoon and beaver) are common in the vicinity of the beaver flowages in the northern parcel. Deer, coyote, fox, turkey, and red and gray squirrels are common in the uplands. Moose and bear are occasionally reported. Pheasant are stocked in the open fields of the southern parcel bordering the abandoned road (Brooks Lane) that runs from West Street to Pillsbury Road.

**SPECIAL** 

**REGULATIONS:** 

A "hunter orange" hat is required wear for hunters during the pheasant season.